

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC., n/k/a QWEST CORPORATION	DOCKET NO. RPU-00-1 (TF-00-64)
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**ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME
TO FILE POST-HEARING BRIEFS**

(Issued October 25, 2000)

On October 23, 2000, the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) filed a motion for extension of time to file post-hearing briefs. Pursuant to the briefing schedule established by the Utilities Board (Board) at the conclusion of the evidentiary hearing on October 11, 2000, simultaneous post-hearing briefs are due on or before October 25, 2000, and reply briefs are due on or before November 3, 2000. Consumer Advocate's grounds were that Qwest Corporation (Qwest) has not yet filed revised exhibits DLT-3 and DLT-4, as well as more current information about unbundled network element (UNE) loops. Consumer Advocate stated that Qwest indicated at hearing that it would file this information on a late-filed basis. It argued that due process and judicial efficiency dictate that the evidentiary record be completed before post-hearing briefs can be required. Finally, Consumer Advocate requested that the initial briefs be due no sooner than five days after Qwest files its additional evidence and the reply briefs one week after that.

AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc., and McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc., filed joinders in Consumer Advocate's motion on October 24, 2000.

The Board agrees that the briefs in this case cannot be required until the record is complete and, therefore, the October 25, 2000, filing deadline must be extended. However, it is not clear that the parties at this time agree on what Qwest must file to complete the evidentiary record. The Board urges the parties to confer within the next two business days and determine what must be filed to complete the record. The Board must be notified in a joint filing on or before October 30, 2000, 1) if the record is complete, 2) if and when more evidentiary filings will be made, or 3) if the parties cannot agree on whether the record is complete. The Board will issue an appropriate procedural order after receiving that joint filing.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The motion for an extension of time to file post-hearing briefs, filed by the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice on October 23, 2000, and joined by AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc., and McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc., on October 24, 2000, is granted as discussed in the order above.

2. On or before October 30, 2000, the parties shall make a joint filing indicating that 1) the evidentiary record is complete, 2) additional evidence will be

filed by a stated date, or 3) the parties cannot agree on whether additional evidence must be filed.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary, Deputy

/s/ Diane Munns

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 25th day of October, 2000.